

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully solicited.

Claims 60 through 90 are pending, with Claims 69, 73, 77, 80, 83, 85, 87, and 89 being independent.

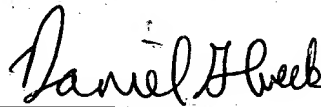
In response to the restriction and election of species requirements set forth in the Official Action, Applicants provisionally elect Group I (Claims 69 through 82), and Species I (Claims 69 through 72 and 77 through 79), with traverse; and respectfully submit that at least Claims 69 through 72 and 77 through 79 are readable upon the elected species.

Nonetheless, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction and election of species requirements. Applicants respectfully submit that all of the claims could be searched by one Examiner without undue effort. Applicants also respectfully believe that it is not mandatory to make restriction or election of species requirements in every possible situation. Applicants respectfully believe that if one Examiner acts on all of the claims of the present application, overall examining time will be less than if multiple Examiners are involved. Applicants also earnestly believe that the examination of all of the claims by one Examiner in the present application will best ensure uniform prosecution quality. Therefore, in the interest of prosecution economy of time and quality for both the Office and Applicants, Applicants respectfully submit that withdrawal of the restriction and election of species requirements in this application is appropriate.

Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C.
office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our
address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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